UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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RICHARD STANTON (as trustee for Ashley Stanton) on behalf of himself and all others simi-

larly situated, : 08 CV 3054 (LAP)

Plaintiff,

RULE 7.1 STATEMENT

VS.

MERRILL LYNCH & CO., INC. and :

MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED,

Defendants. :

Defendant Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated states that it is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. Defendant Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. states that it is a publicly held company whose shares are traded on the New York Stock Exchange and there is no publicly held corporation that owns 10% or more of its stock.

Dated: New York, New York April 1, 2008

/s/ Jay B. Kasner

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Attorneys for Defendants Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. and Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated